

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims ~~14~~, ~~15~~, ~~16~~, ~~26~~ and ~~27~~, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as follows:

14. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the paper used is wet-strengthened by resins having a lower basis weight than the basis weight of paper wet-strengthened by viscose alone or [viscose used] in [conjunction] combination with [small amounts of] resins, such that the paper used has elasticity properties substantially similar to that of paper wet-strengthened by viscose alone or in combination with resin.

C 15. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the weight of the resin bonded paper is reduced by about 1 to 4g/m² in comparison to paper wet-strengthened by viscose alone or [viscose plus small amounts of] in combination with resins, [in order to obtain elasticity properties substantially similar to one another] such that the resin bonded paper used has elasticity properties substantially similar to that of paper wet-strengthened by viscose alone or in combination with resin.

16. (Amended) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the weight of the resin bonded paper is reduced by about 2-3g/m² in comparison to paper wet-strengthened by viscose alone or [viscose plus small amount of] in combination with resins,

C1 such that the resin bonded paper has elasticity properties
substantially similar to that of paper wet-strengthened by
viscose alone or in combination with resin.

26. (Amended) A method of continuously impregnating a paper substrate formed into a tube shape, which method comprises the steps of:

d d a feeding [the] viscose under pressure through the lips of [the] die directly onto one surface and through the paper base or substrate having a weight of less than ¹⁴~~15~~g/m²,

C2 supporting the paper substrate from the side opposite the die during transit across these lips by a metal ring or cylinder, the gap between ring and die being such that it permits the paper to pass unimpeded, and

continuing the impregnation of the paper substrate by continuing the passage of the tube between die and supporting ring for a predetermined distance within fixed gap dimensions.

27. (Amended) [The] A tubing manufactured by the method [is] as claimed in claim 13, which tubing comprises ^{paper material,} viscose and which tubing is wet-strengthened by at least one strengthener selected from the group consisting of resins and ^{paper material} viscose, which has a basis weight of less than ¹⁴~~15~~g/m².